

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-5, 7-10, 13-15, 17, 18, and 20-22 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) Method for real-time addition of statistics definitions and for achieving real-time reporting in a telephone switching system, comprising:

a database containing information of essential importance to the telephone switching system;

a database manager, whose function is to maintain the database;

one or more service providers;

wherein the method comprises the steps of:

receiving by means of the database manager a registration of the service provider;

having the database manager send the service provider an inquiry asking for information about ~~the~~ services produced by it;

storing ~~the~~ service definition data supplied by the service provider in the database; and

generating a new definitions file for reporting purposes on the basis of the ~~information~~ service definition data in the database.

2. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a version number of the service produced by the service provider is checked; and

the service provider is asked to supply ~~information~~ service definition data about the services produced by it if the version number of the service provided is previously unknown; or

the service provider is given a request for the service if the version number of the service provided is known.

3. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a version number of the service provided by the service provider is checked when a request for the service is given to the service provider; and

the service request is canceled if the service version number returned by the service provider is previously unknown.

4. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ address data of the database manager is reported to a name service.

5. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ address data of the database manager is established via an inquiry to ~~the~~ a name service.

6. (Previously Presented) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein individual identification data is attached to each piece of information produced by the service provider.

7. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the ~~specification~~ service definition data are divided into fixed specification data and network-element specific data.

8. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the database manager is given a reference to a file that contains information about ~~the~~ content of the service produced by the service provider.

9. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein the service definition data collected by the database manager are stored in several different databases based on data types.

10. (Currently Amended) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein definitions files are generated on the basis of the service definition data contained in the database.

11. (Previously Presented) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein reports are generated on the basis of a definitions file produced by the database manager.

12. (Previously Presented) Method as defined in claim 1, wherein a definitions file previously defined is deleted or changed.

13. (Currently Amended) System for real-time addition of statistics definitions and for achieving real-time reporting in a telephone switching system, comprising:

a database containing information of essential importance to the telephone switching system;

a database manager, whose function is to maintain the database;

one or more service providers;

wherein the system comprises:

means for receiving a registration of a service provider by means of the database manager;

means for requesting information about ~~the~~ services produced by the service provider, using the database manager;

means for storing ~~the~~ service definition data supplied by the service provider in the database; and

means for generating a new definitions file for reporting purposes on the basis of the ~~information~~ service definition data in the database.

14. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises:

means for checking ~~the~~ a version number of the service produced by the service provider;

means for asking for information about the services produced by the service provider;

means for requesting a service from the service provider.

15. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises:

means for checking ~~the~~ a version number of the service produced by the service provider; and

means for canceling a service request.

16. (Previously Presented) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for reporting the database manager to a name service.

17. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for establishing ~~the~~ address data of the database manager via an inquiry to ~~the~~ a name service.

18. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for attaching individual identification data to ~~the~~ information produced by the service provider.

19. (Previously Presented) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for dividing the definition data into fixed definitions and network-element specific data.

20. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for giving the database manager a reference to a file that contains information about ~~the~~ content of the service produced by the service provider.

21. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for storing the service definition data collected by the database manager in several different databases on the basis of data types.

22. (Currently Amended) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for generating definitions files on the basis of the ~~information~~ service definition data contained in the database.

23. (Previously Presented) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for generating a report on the basis of a definitions file produced by the database manager.

24. (Previously Presented) System as defined in claim 13, wherein the system comprises means for deleting or changing a definitions file previously defined.